

Washington, DC -- U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) today announced over \$261,000 for community emergency food and shelter programs through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Bill).

“As unemployment rates rise and hours are cut, this Recovery funding will help local families and seniors hit the hardest by the economic downturn,” **Arcuri said**. “Now more than ever local community assistance groups need funding to help families and individuals already doing all they can to find employment and make ends meet.”

Federal funds totaling \$100 million were made available to the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) through the Recovery Bill to bring immediate relief to communities to address unemployment, poverty and other needs in light of the current economic climate. EFSP grant funds are used to supplement food, shelter, rent, mortgage and utility assistance programs for people with non-disaster related emergencies.

Recovery Bill Emergency Food and Shelter Funding Announced by Arcuri for Counties in the 24th Congressional District:

Broome County	\$60,083
Cayuga County	\$25,758
Chenango County	\$17,345
Cortland County	\$17,001
Herkimer County	\$20,879
Oneida County	\$65,702
Otsego County	\$19,680
Seneca County	\$10,403
Tompkins County	\$24,903

Additional jurisdictions in New York State may be selected at a later date by the EFSP State Set-Aside Committee. The EFSP National Board, chaired by the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and composed of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; United Jewish Communities; National

Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; The Salvation Army; and United Way of America, provides supplemental funding to shelters, soup kitchens, and food banks. One-month awards for rent, mortgage, and utility assistance are also available. The funds are used to help individuals and families with non-disaster, temporary emergency needs.

In each funded jurisdiction, a Local Board advertises the availability of funds, establishes local priorities, selects local non-profit and government agencies to receive supplemental funding, and monitors program compliance. The Local Board's composition mirrors the EFSP National Board, with a local government official replacing FEMA and board members voting to select their chair.

The Recovery Bill, which Arcuri voted for and the President signed into law last month, also includes job creation measures such as: funding for infrastructure improvements; aid to states and localities; tax cuts for the middle class and small businesses; and, investments in education.

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